

The Sun

WILLIAM M. LAFFAN.

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A New Canal Treaty Proposed

There has never been any doubt that President MARRIOTT of Colombia is personally willing, and even anxious, to see the Panama Canal completed by the United States. It is no fault of his that his wishes have been disregarded by the Colombian Senate. That he is not discouraged by his inability to get the Hay-Herran treaty ratified at Bogota is evident from the fact that he has already taken steps to reopen negotiations with our State Department. He has instructed Dr. HERRAN, his representative at Washington, to arrange, if possible, with Secretary HAY a new canal convention, so framed as to meet the objections made by Colombian Senators to the former agreement.

It is understood that the changes suggested aim to safeguard Colombia's sovereignty and to augment the bonus and the annual subvention to be paid for the franchise and the incidental privileges which our Government desires. The ground on which the Hay-Herran treaty was rejected by the Colombian Senate was that the stipulations relating to jurisdiction were irreconcilable with the upholding of Colombia's sovereignty on the Isthmus. It was further pointed out that the Colombian Constitution forbids a surrender of the republic's sovereignty, as well as an alienation of national territory. It was not disputed, however, at Bogota that the Constitutional provision against alienation had been successfully evaded in the Hay-Herran treaty by the substitution of a long lease for an outright sale of the canal zone. It should be equally possible to devise in a new convention such regulations for the enforcement of law and order on the Isthmus as would not technically impair the sovereign rights of Colombia. Nor should too much stress be laid on theoretical claims of jurisdiction. When we set to work to complete the waterway we shall see to it that justice and equity prevail. Should any oppression be attempted by the local courts, it will be the worse for those tribunals.

As regards the amount of purchase money payable to Colombia, we are told that in the opinion of the Bogota politicians the bonus ought to be raised from ten million to about fifteen million dollars and that the annual subvention to be paid by way of rent should be so increased as to equal the revenue now derived from the Panama Railroad and from light-house and port fees. The latter demand is not unreasonable.

Fusion Against Tammany.

The positive material benefits which have resulted to the taxpayers and the residents of New York City from the substitution of business methods in the administration of the municipal affairs for the Tammany system are set forth strikingly in a pamphlet issued by the City Club, in which the record made by President SWANSTROM of the Borough of Brooklyn is contrasted with the record made during the four years of Mayor VAN WYCK's term. EDWARD M. GROUT was President of the Borough from 1897 to 1902, but under the Charter he was practically without power. The Mayor and the Commissioners appointed by the Mayor were supreme in the most minute details of borough administration. The borough officials could advise and suggest, but they had no power to insist. Nothing could be done that the Mayor, controlling the Board of Estimate and all the Commissioners, did not authorize; and the Mayor authorized nothing that was not for the immediate financial or political benefit of Tammany and its friends. Mr. GROUT was obliged to sit at one side and see his home borough neglected, while vast sums of money were spent to further Tammany's ends.

When President SWANSTROM entered the office of Borough President the new Charter was in effect and a new city administration took office. An effort was made by the members of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, of which the Borough President was a member, to learn the needs of Brooklyn, and to satisfy them as rapidly as the resources of the city would permit. The city's expenditures were made to improve its streets and sewers and sidewalks, and not to prop up the tottering asphalt trust or to line the pockets of already rich Tammany contractors. By the adoption of a business system conditions in Brooklyn have been improved steadily and greatly during the last two years. Here is a table showing the amount of paving and repaving for which contracts were made during the Tammany administration and since:

| | 1898 to 1901. | 1902. | Jan. 1 to Aug. 1, 1903. |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Asphalt..... | 27.10 miles. | 30.01 miles. | 65.34 miles. |
| Gravel..... | 4.38 " | 8.00 " | 10.44 " |
| Macadam..... | 3.23 " | 1.51 " | 4.74 " |
| Trap block..... | 1.00 " | 1.17 " | 2.17 " |
| Medina sand..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Stone..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Wood..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Cobble..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Belgian..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total..... | 40.40 miles. | 40.84 miles. | 79.32 miles. |

There could be no more eloquent exposition of the benefits that Brooklyn has received from an anti-Tammany administration than the facts set forth in this table.

In the matter of providing an adequate sewerage system for the borough, the

comparative showing of the two administrations is no less to the credit of the fusion system. In four years Tammany let sewer contracts amounting to \$2,238,368 in the aggregate. In four years contracts let for \$65,975.96 were completed. The other contracts were under way when Tammany was turned out of office. In the eighteen months from Jan. 1, 1902, to July 1, 1903, contracts for new sewers amounting to \$2,671,457.53 were let. That is, in eighteen months of anti-Tammany rule improvements were contracted for which are worth \$433,000 more than those which Tammany began in forty-eight months. To-day \$3,344,593.53 worth of new sewers are under construction in Brooklyn, a record which no Tammany administration would ever have made.

There is nothing in these statistics to stir the blood or excite the imagination. They are business, dry-as-dust, tiresome. They prove conclusively, however, that the Tammany organization neglected its duties, failed to provide for the absolute necessities of the people, and used their wealth and power to protect crime and wring an income from vice.

A Catholic Priest.

We have received several sincerely and bitterly indignant letters from Catholic priests of distinction with reference to a communication printed in THE SUN of Wednesday on the school question and attributed in its title to a "Catholic priest."

As the letter below, from a prominent ecclesiastic in Connecticut, briefly represents the tone and character of all the letters of criticism, in replying to it we shall answer the whole number:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—In to-day's SUN there is a letter signed "Fair Play." You refer to it in an editorial, and state that "it is from a Catholic priest." The obvious meaning is a Roman Catholic priest, and such is my meaning, judging from the context. It is very evident that the article was not written by a Roman Catholic priest. There are intrinsic proofs that show very clearly that it came from the pen of a non-Catholic.

HARTFORD, Oct. 21. VERITAS.

The letter signed "Fair Play" came to us from a Catholic priest. As he is a man of great ability, of unusual literary cultivation, of learning and of unquestionably high standing as a clergyman, we printed his letter, as in the past we have printed other communications from him. Of course, everybody understands that we assume no responsibility for the sentiments expressed by correspondents, and, least of all, for their religious or irreligious notions. We assume that the writer of the letter so sharply criticized will come forward in his own defense, for he is a stout controversialist.

Canada and the Award.

The Alaskan boundary decision is more of a disappointment than a surprise to the people of Canada. Their attitude toward their claim was hopeful rather than expectant. Few looked for a conclusion favorable to their wishes, but many hoped that something to their marked advantage might result from the arbitration of the question. That disappointment should manifest itself in the form of some ungracious comment, and even in some display of bitterness, is entirely natural. The acquisition of Canadian ports in the immediate vicinity of so valuable a territory as the gold areas of the Canadian Northwest meant much to the Canadian people. With the passing of the first sense of disappointment and irritation there will come the realization that a good fight has been made, that Canada has done all that could be done to sustain her claim. That her hopes are not fulfilled is her misfortune and not her fault, and the misfortune will be accepted with as much of grace as lies in a people who have shown themselves good fighters and will now wish to show themselves equally good losers.

But it is evident that the immediate effect of Canadian disappointment is directed toward England rather than toward the United States. No fair-minded Canadian will really blame the United States. It was an entirely fair contest, in which one side sought to obtain that which was held by its opponent. Both sought the same end, the confirmation of the ownership of a disputed territory. The conditions of the trial were mutually agreed upon. No charge of unfairness or irregularity is or can be made against the successful party. That it was strongly partisan is entirely true, but the United States was no more partisan in the matter than was Canada. Of the members of the Commission, Mr. ROOT, Mr. LODGE and Mr. TURNER were no more vigorously partisan than Sir LOUIS JETTIE and Mr. AYLESWORTH. If the Americans appointed to a judicial tribunal went to their posts with an unalterable conviction of the correctness of the attitude of their country, the same is to be said of the Canadians. A few days of reflection will assure the Canadians that they have no just cause of complaint against the United States or its representatives on the Board of Arbitration.

For the fact that this award adds another item to the list of international controversies in which Canada, with or without justification, believes that her welfare has been sacrificed in the interest of Anglo-American relations the United States cannot be held responsible. If England has so sacrificed the interests of her colony, it is not to be expected that the United States should reverse the English decision in its favor and give to Canada that which the parent Government had denied to her. It is in every way probable that the incident will be more costly to the relations between Canada and England than to the relations between Canada and the United States.

One outcome is virtually a certainty. That will lie in the stronger establishment of the Canadian spirit of self-dependence, a sentiment which has shown a persistent and clearly marked increase since the establishment of the Dominion, in 1867. At that time Canada was a British colony. To-day, as far as the exercise of a free hand in her own affairs is concerned, she is only less self-governing than her neighbor on the south. That the only remaining dispute concerning boundary lines is now determined may be a fact of im-

portance, but it does not mean that Canada will never again be engaged in an international question in which England may have a place and a part. More than ever before Canada will choose to settle such questions herself. This seems an inevitable result of this new blow to Canadian confidence in England's guidance of her affairs.

Another outcome is almost equally a certainty. In that there lies, perhaps, a silver lining to the present cloud. Canada will not sit down and bemoan her misfortune. She will try to find, and will find, a way to snatch victory out of seeming defeat. The protracted struggle over the proposed new transcontinental railway, with its western terminus at Port Simpson, on the shore of that Portland Canal to which they obtain extended title by the London decision, seems to be nearing its end, with every probability of a conclusion in favor of its construction. A branch line from that road, sent northward into the Klondike, would open a region known to be rich in its agricultural resources and lying in the direct course of that belt of gold, silver and copper, which extends from Alaska to Mexico. Between the known gold area of the Klondike, on the south, and the known gold area of the Klondike, on the north end, there is a stretch of some hundreds of miles in which gold is known to lie and where it may lie in quantities which would even dwarf the output of the Klondike. That great valley at the foot of the western slope of the Rockies contains immense possibilities, and is far more readily accessible by an all-rail route than it is by sea.

Should Canada, baffled in her earlier aims, turn with her characteristic pluck to an independent rail route, open up the possibilities of that section, and find therein all that many have asserted to lie there, the Alaskan award might prove a blessing in disguise.

Just Ruling in Feminine Parliamentary Law.

The great and beneficent growth of woman's clubs, congresses and other feminine parliamentary institutions is adding a woman's annex to Cushing and building a sound system of feminine parliamentary law. The modifications and distinctions introduced are not only characterized, as might have been expected, by delicacy and subtlety, but they rest upon a solid foundation of practical sense. They are not ornaments, but necessities. They are adaptations for use.

One of the most interesting of the new rules was suggested by the President-General of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The Daughters were to meet at a moment when the President-General had an important, we may say an imperative, engagement. The internal politics of the society being somewhat intense, she deemed it inadvisable to ask anybody else to preside. As a prudent tactician, she took into account the possibility that if she were absent somebody might be elected President-General in her place.

So she went to the meeting, called it to order, frankly appealed to every true feminine heart in the room by saying that she "had an appointment with the dressmaker," and herself proposed immediate adjournment. Preferring to "play politics," the opposition made the frivolous objection that no motion to adjourn had been made and seconded. The President-General had made the motion herself. She seconded it by putting the question and she carried it by declaring the meeting adjourned. The vote was 2 ayes to 1 noes. But the President-General knows how to count a majority as well as Speaker REED used to count a quorum.

We impute no personal motives to the opposition, but it strove in vain against a fundamental rule of feminine parliamentary law. Not only does a motion to adjourn on account of an appointment with the dressmaker take precedence of all motions, but it is self-carrying. An appointment with a dressmaker not only takes precedence of all other business, but there is, and of right ought to be, no other business when that is suggested. It is the great, previous, present and subsequent question. In enforcing it the President-General has deserved well of feminine parliamentarians and fixed an immutable principle of feminine parliamentary proceeding.

The Elections of 1903.

The diminishing list of States holding general elections in "off years" has been reduced so as to include now only Ohio, always conspicuous in any political group, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Iowa, Rhode Island and Mississippi. In some other States, notably Pennsylvania and Nebraska, candidates for other offices are to be voted for; but, generally speaking, the elections which are of national interest are not held this year.

But in New York City, whatever may be the case in other States, this year's contest is not an "off" one. Accumulated evidences of popular interest in meetings, campaign work and political activity, all reflected in the large registration, point unmistakably to a probable total vote of not less than 600,000, which is larger than that of Iowa, Massachusetts, Kentucky, Rhode Island or Maryland cast in the Presidential election of three years ago. It is a vast electorate, great in number and important in influence.

Whatever the elections of 1903 may be elsewhere, this is no "off year" in New York City. Shall New York go forward or turn back?

The Serious Composer and Ragtime

HENRY K. HADLEY has just tried to interrupt the joyous progress of "Nancy Brown" by the severe means of an attachment on the baggage of that musical force. Mr. HADLEY is a serious musician. One of his symphonies was baptized into immortality by a performance by the Philharmonic Society. He won a prize offered by PADEKREWSKI for the best composition by an American. Thus has Mr. HADLEY given proof of his standing in his profession.

Musical forces are more popular than

symphonies. There is a new theory that the music heard most frequently is the music best liked, and that "Hiawatha" would be no greater favorite than the "Eroica," were BEETHOVEN's work heard as often. But at present popular songs are more frequently played than symphonies, and public taste still leans to the lighter music. So long as people were not to hear his symphony often enough to acquire a taste for it Mr. HADLEY decided to write what they seem to want.

He composed the score of "Nancy Brown." There was in it a likelier chance of profit than in symphonies. The composer was to receive a certain share of the receipts. Because he failed to get them he has appealed to the law. Then it appeared that the score which he had composed in the most frivolous mood he could coax was still too serious. One by one his numbers disappeared from the performances under the chilling indifference of the public. Here a aria for the soprano fell away; there a romance for the tenor dropped out. The music grew more syncretized as the company advanced through the country leaving quivering sections of the original score behind it. Finally there remained only such *disjuncta membra* as the opening chorus and the finale. Then the royalties ceased.

It was argued on behalf of "Nancy Brown" that music which was not used should not be paid for, even though a composer of symphonies had written it. The life of the musical force was threatened until the musical virus was withdrawn and ragtime liberally injected. Syncretism saved it. Mr. HADLEY has not admitted that this heroic treatment was necessary, and the case has not yet been settled in any way. It serves well, however, to demolish the hypothesis that good music would be just as popular as bad if it were heard often enough.

The Sultan ABDUL HAMID II. is not generally credited with a sense of humor, yet he has shown more than once that he possesses a certain somewhat cynical form of it. The latest evidence of this comes over the cable in a despatch announcing that officers have been issued at Constantinople for the demobilization of twenty thousand troops, in accordance with the Russo-Bulgarian understanding for mutual disarmament. In token of good faith the Bulgarians began first by dismissing five thousand men and notifying as many more that they would be sent to their homes. The Sultan responds not by diminishing the force on the Bulgarian frontier or in Europe, but by demobilizing troops in Asia Minor. It remains to be seen how the Bulgarians will take this practical joke of their suzerain, but it hardly seems likely that they will be in any hurry to reduce further the number of their troops now under arms.

A Phrase Wrongly Attributed to Comptroller Groot.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—In an editorial this morning in THE SUN, the following words are ascribed to me: "The Red Lights are only doused; they have not been put out." I have at no time and no place said anything of the sort. The speaker who preceded me the night before last—I think Mr. Russell—said some words of this kind, but I did not. If any newspaper reporter ascribe Mr. Russell's words to me, they are in error, as to whether Mr. Russell is correct or incorrect, I am not informed. THE SUN has been so uniformly fair in its utterances concerning me that I trust this letter will be given equal prominence with the erroneous statement which I correct.

NEW YORK, Oct. 22. EDWARD M. GROUT.

"Felonious" Philological Study.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Under the head line "Queer Cases in Ireland," the following appeared in your columns to-day, but not in the form of a despatch:

At the Dundrum Petty Sessions Court, in Dublin city, on the 20th inst., a man charged with recently with unlawfully assembling together to disturb the peace. A policeman swore that they all repeatedly threw volleys of stones at him. On cross-examination the defendant admitted that he was throwing the young men were only ten yards away from him, and none of the stones hit him.

The charge behind the charge was that the young men, instead of throwing stones, were "feloniously" to learn the language of their forebears.

Counsel for the defence offered to produce witnesses who would clearly establish the innocence of the young men, but the prosecution objected to any evidence for the defence, on the ground that under the act of Edward III. the defendants were not entitled to it. The Court sustained the objection, and the young men were convicted.

This will be surprising news to most Irishmen. It is no felony, it is not even a misdemeanor, for Irishmen to teach or learn Irish. There is a professor of Celtic at Dublin University and two examiners in the same language in the Royal University. Celtic is a subject on the part of the Intermediate Education Board and on that of the National Board of Education. The Celtic revival, as a literary affair, has the support of all classes of Irishmen, official and otherwise.

The above reads like a fairy tale.

NEW YORK, Oct. 20. F. J. G.

Good Old Misraux Names.

From the *Brayner* Comes.

Adam Holt has been suffering for two months with a cancer on his wrist, is about again, shaking hands with old friends.

John H. Deane, who has been in Oklahoma for a year or more, is back for a few days on business.

G. W. Tunks called to see Mrs. Tunks's father Sunday. He is a fine fellow, a good mixer, a good mixer, and a good mixer.

Joe Shiner and family left yesterday for Independence, Kan., where he has bought a farm, and will locate.

Dave Higgie spent Sunday with Ed Denison and family.

Ed Trutt called on Mr. Culp Sunday.

Fred Elmsworth taught Locust Grove school last week, on account of the illness of the teacher, Miss Olive Schultz.

A Girl Who Sticks Up for Dr. Dowle.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I consider Dowle a much misrepresented and unjustly ridiculed person, and I feel sorry for any one who is submitted to the indignities and insults that he is at every meeting. The audience this morning would have richly deserved the "vituperative language" the papers speak of, but if very rude and "positively indecent" are vituperative, they weren't half vituperative enough. Please publish this, for it is only fair to some one to stick up for Dowle.

NEW YORK, Oct. 21. A DISSENTING GENTLE.

Golden Rod and Applejack.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—These things are queer. Why?

Many pear trees and a few peach trees are in bloom.

The crop of golden rod this season has been almost nothing and of poor quality.

However, applejack is ripe and of far-reaching quality, so, perhaps, one should not complain.

MIDDLETOWN, Oct. 21. J. B. FREEMAN.

It May Be Proper, But It Is Not Wise.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—How early in the day may a man commence to drink milk juice? It is proper to drink milk before breakfast.

NORTHPORT, L. I., Oct. 22. NORTHPORT.

Vacation Time in Maine.

From the *Phillips* Magazine.

F. J. Toole and wife are taking a rest. They have no boarders.

In the Circle.

Although McCallan speaks four languages, he is not a linguist. He is a linguist. He will be beaten by the men who simply make a mark.

THE "OPEN DOOR."

The Phrase Itself Means Nothing Without Commercial Energy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—The phrase of the "open door" drops so glibly from the tongue and flows so freely from the pen that one is almost disposed to accept it as an expression conveying an idea of deep importance. It is broad, expansive in tone, free and liberal in sentiment. Yet, after all, what does it really mean?

It is probable that the common definition of the term would state that which it seems to mean in its commercial sense and application. That would not of necessity define its real meaning. It might even be said that, commercially, there is no such thing as an "open door." Nor, conversely, is there really such a thing as a closed door. The trade channels through which merchandise enters the different markets of the world all present their various obstacles and barriers. In some ports of entry there are more numerous and more difficult than in others. In some ports, there is no such thing as an "open door," and no nation closes its own doors, or ports, or the doors of its colonial possessions to the entrance of foreign merchandise. It cannot mean an absolute equality of entrance, for that would prohibit the exercise of national right to impose maximum and minimum tariffs, or to effect mutually beneficial trade treaties upon a basis of special advantages.

The phrase is misleading, and misleading phrases should be eliminated from our commercial vocabulary. Manchuria is the point of its special application; and, from its common usage, one would be justified in a belief that the Manchurian door had been closed and nailed up, and that China has now, by stroke of pen, thrown it broadly open, with a result of increasing our trade with that region a hundredfold or so.

It is true that certain ports in China are, by Chinese regulations, closed to foreign trade. To others, England alone has right of entrance by virtue of treaties of commerce with the Chinese Government. If, any, these closed ports are of commercial importance to the United States, and it is quite doubtful if their entire freedom would materially affect the volume of American commerce. Our cultivation of the opportunities which now lie open to us in the Flowery Kingdom is not so vigorous and energetic as to justify any strenuous outcry against the denial to us of other and almost insignificant opportunities on any ground other than that of man's keen desire for the forbidden, whether it be of value or worthless.

Our trade with China, exclusive of Hong Kong, which is not, though many suppose it to be, a part of China, represented last year barely more than 1 per cent. of our exports. About 70 per cent. of this was represented by the single item of cotton cloth. China's total imports from all countries for the last year were a little less than the total of those of Canada. We secured about 10 per cent. of the Chinese trade, and about 65 per cent. of the Canadian, notwithstanding the fact that, geographically, China is decidedly more within our sphere of commercial influence than within that of any of our competitors.

It is entirely untrue that we should desire an extension of our commerce with China, and it is wholly fit and proper that due effort should be made to effect and secure, through international treaty, opportunity for such an extension. But we should not be misled by phrases. Open doors are useless to those who make no use of them, and doors the world over are open to those who will push them open. The kingdom of trade, like the kingdom of heaven, suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force, by energy, by trade activity, by effort.

An "open door" in Manchuria, or anywhere else, does not mean that those who are inside will pitch out to us their orders for our wares and merchandise. It means that we can go through it and make sales on fairly equal terms with our competitors by our commercial activity put them through the door.

If that be not done, it concerns us little whether Manchuria or any other country opens doors or constructs impenetrable walls. Our new treaty with China is worth exactly what we make it worth.

NEW YORK, Oct. 21. FAR EAST.

A Conversation in a Trolley Car.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Getting into a pretty well crowded trolley car one day last week, a good-looking German squeezed up to his next neighbor and made room for me to sit down.

And then, though he was an utter stranger to me, he talked from broad street to Munn avenue—must have talked for some time, for he was very talkative, and he was very intelligent. I said: "There ought to be some common sense in these disputes between capital and labor. There would not be such an everlasting war if the world of industry if there were."

"That is so," he said; "a strike ought to be the last resort. I was a union man in Germany. I am a union man in this country. I say the best way to settle these disputes is by arbitration. If the union can't get it asked for, let them compromise and take what they can get rather than strike."

"A young man in a strike can go to a free lunch counter, order a glass of beer for five cents and get out of it with it to last him all day. On the other hand a man belonging to another or the same union has a wife and five children. He can't support them on five cents a day, and the consequence is he has to turn his wife and children out of the door to do or see them go hungry."

"I worked in a shop once in Norway where we used to make \$4.50 a day and do it easy; we went to work at 7:30 in the morning and our day's work was done at 4 in the afternoon. It was a tedious and tiring job, but it was a good job, but there were three other men in the shop who tried to make all they could, and for a week or two they made \$5.50 a day."

"Then they dropped off to the old price and asked the boss for a raise. He said: 'You are making pretty fair pay. He could not afford to pay any more, and the upshot of it was that he got that kind of work done cheaper outside the shop—the men had to hunt another job and they had succeeded in 'killing the goose that laid the golden egg.'"

Just then we got to Munn avenue and our ways parted.

SOUTH ORANGE, Oct. 20. D. J. McDEBDE.

Classic and Medieval Art.

Zeus had painted his grapes so well that the birds pecked at them.

"That's nothing," asserted his rival, "I painted some grapes so well that the people in our boarding house wouldn't eat them before breakfast."

Totally abashed, the great Greek slunk humbly back to his studio.

Penelope was unravelling the shroud.

"Yes," she admitted, "it is work, but this is nothing to unravelling the yarn Ulysses will tell when he comes home."

Peeping over the banister to see if his boots were there yet, she resumed her task.

Raphael was painting away for dear life.

"Are you sure you will find a market for all your work?" he asked.

"Certainly," he replied, "market of all the apartment houses that will want old masters in the entrance hall."

Following his efforts, he hastened to fill an order for the St. Janitor Palace.

His Ambition.

What good intention the Tiger has; he really does seem to be a tiger.

For 'tis the only time of year he wants to sweep his city.

JEROME RESERVOIR INQUIRY.

Craven Testifies That McDonald Wanted to Substitute Stone Dust for Sand.

The Aqueduct Commissioners began yesterday to hear the evidence which the Merchants' Association has gathered to support its charges against McDonald and O'Donoghue, the contractors for the new Jerome Park reservoir. Corporation Counsel Rives has given an opinion that the Commissioners can subpoena and swear witnesses.

Alfred Craven, who was a division engineer in the employ of the Aqueduct Commission until 1900, when he resigned and went to work as an engineer on the Rapid Transit subway, testified yesterday that the walls of the reservoir leaked freely in places.

Did Mr. McDonald approach you and suggest that stone dust should be substituted for sand in the making of mortar?" asked Mr. Dougherty.

"Mr. McDonald made that suggestion to me once, but I told him that it would not do, and that ended the matter," Mr. Craven replied. He said also that the earth which the embankments had not been rammed as the specifications called for and that large stones had been dumped with the earth.

The inquiry will be continued next Wednesday.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE CONVENTION.

Officers Elected, With Ella H. Crockett as President—Susan B. Anthony Speaks.

HONOLULU, N. Y., Oct. 22.—The address of welcome by Mayor Nelson to the State Woman Suffrage Convention last night showed him to be decidedly in favor of their cause. The New York club has been presented by Susan B. Anthony, on behalf of the association, with reminiscences of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, it being the club to show the largest gain during the past year. The response to Miss Anthony's presentation address was made by Mrs. De Haven of New York.

The election of officers was held this morning, the following being chosen for the ensuing year: President, Ella Hawley Crockett; Vice-President, Harriet May Mills of Syracuse; recording secretary, Isabel Hawley of Sherwood; corresponding secretary, Mrs. George Field Potter of Brooklyn; treasurer, Mrs. Eliza Osborne of Auburn.

The public sessions of the convention closed to-night with the greatest cheering of the night, including addresses by the Rev. Anna Howard Shaw and Susan Brownell Anthony. Miss Anthony has been here during the entire convention, attending all the sessions and seeing the large and enthusiastic gathering.

FUGITIVE KATZ ARRESTED.

He Is Wanted for Bribery in St. Louis—Skipped \$20,000 Bail Bond.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Oct. 22.—Circuit Attorney Folk received word from Washington to-day that Charles Katz had been arrested at Guadalajara, Mexico. Katz was a member of the City Council, and is wanted for bribery and perjury. He gave bond in \$20,000 when indicted on the charge that he had skipped the country.

Mr. Folk says he will have Katz back in St. Louis within ten days.